



BOROUGH OF WHITEHAVEN



Library

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR 1965

AND REPORT OF THE

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR**

BOROUGH OF WHITEHAVEN
HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
1965-66

Chairman Alderman J. Walsh, M.B.E.

Vice-Chairman Alderman W. Denvir

Members :

THE MAYOR (Councillor W. Fell)

Aldermen J. Blamire, W. E. Knipe and W. Pritchard

Councillors J. Boylan, Mrs. E. Colley and G. Hanlon

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

J. N. Dobson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

A. A. Beldon, C.R.S.I.

Additional Health Inspectors :

P. Eldon, C.R.S.I. A. Foster, C.R.S.I.

Clerk : Miss I. Davidson

Clerk-Typist : Miss G. Banks

Tel :
Whitehaven 2661.

Town Hall,
Whitehaven

20th February, 1967.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1965. The report is presented in accordance with Circular 1/65 of the Ministry of Health. The statistical tables have been prepared along the usual lines and give some comparison to figures of previous years.

The vital statistics were on the whole good, and in respect of infantile mortality and perinatal rates very good. The Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1965 showed a fall in population, which is borne out by a smaller number of births and increased number of deaths. There is also a slight drain of population from the town at present. There was little variation in numbers in causes of deaths, but deaths from cancer increased by three, including two from cancer of the lung.

In infectious diseases measles produced a total of 758 cases in the year but there was no high prevalence of other notifiable disease. The two cases (non-residents) of paratyphoid fever were associated with a milk-borne outbreak in or near a seaside resort but there was no evidence of extension of the disease during the year. Such cases, although not common, are a reminder of the very great need for hygiene and care in food production and food distribution. Infection in a food-handler can be a danger to very large numbers of people. For this type of infection, i.e. gastro-intestinal, raw milk serves as a very convenient form of dissemination.

As the general aspect in streets and houses improves so does the standard of what constitutes a home rise. The concept of **defects** in a house on which the older housing acts were based now gives place to the newer idea of **amenity**. A kettle on the fire can produce some hot water but it does not approach the facility of a constant hot water supply. An outside water-closet may not be classed as insanitary but cannot always be considered as reasonably accessible as one within doors. A house that was reasonable for an oldish couple becomes a hazard when stairs have to be mounted in real old age. Such environmental matters would appear to be ones for future thought in planning for a good living environment.

The background of the sanitation and hygiene of the town is well written up in the second part of this report by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

This report has been delayed because of the loss of your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. N. Dobson, and I think that only a short preface is here indicated. I am grateful for the help in the preparation of the report by Mr. A. A. Beldon, Chief Public Health Inspector, and Miss I. Davidson, Clerk to the department.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. HUNTER, M.B., D.P.H.

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

1.—General Statistics

Area of Borough in acres	...	...	...	4,315
Population (Registrar-General's estimate, mid-year, 1965)	...	...	...	27,290
Population, Census 1961	...	...	...	27,566
Persons per acre	...	...	...	6.3
Number of inhabited houses, 1965-66, according to rate books	...	...	...	8,074
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1966	...	...	...	£986,134
Estimated Product of a Penny rate, 1966-67	...	...	...	£3,879

VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Number of legitimate live births	...	490	
Number of illegitimate live births	...	25	(4.9%)
Total live births	...	515	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of population			18.9
Adjusted birth Rate per 1,000 of population			17.6
(b) Number of legitimate still births	...	...	6
Number of illegitimate still births	...	...	1
Total still births	...	...	7
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births			13.4

DEATHS

(a) Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)			
Legitimate infants	...	...	8
Illegitimate infants	...	...	—
Total infant deaths	...	...	8
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...		15.5
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	16.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	Nil

(b) Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	11.7
(c) Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	9.7
(d) Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and still births)	22.99
(e) Maternal Mortality (including abortion) ...	Nil
(f) Deaths at all ages	298
Crude death rate per 1,000 of population ...	10.9
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 of population ...	14.3

Statistics for the Borough are shown in relation to those of the County and England and Wales in Table 1.

TABLE 1.
Comparative Statistics

			Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
Whitehaven Borough	...	...	18.9	10.9	15.5
Cumberland (Administrative County)			17.4	12.0	16.9
England and Wales	...	...	18.1	11.5	19.0

Table 1 shows only crude rates; corrected rates are given in the subsequent tables.

TABLE 2.
Birth Rates

Year	Number of Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 of population :	
		Whitehaven	England & Wales
1961	... 537	18.9	17.4
1962	... 601	20.9	18.0
1963	.. 500	16.9	18.2
1964	... 556	18.8	18.4
1965	.. 515	17.6	18.1

There were 41 fewer live births than in 1964, giving a Birth Rate of 17.6 per thousand of population, which was 1.2 less than the figure for the previous year and 0.5 lower than the national rate which, in turn, was 0.3 down on the figure for 1964.

Table 3 shows death rates over the past five years.

TABLE 3.

Death Rates

Year	Number of Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 of population :	
		Whitehaven	England & Wales
1961	... 322	13.7	12.0
1962	... 310	12.6	11.9
1963	... 280	12.7	12.2
1964	... 270	12.3	11.3
1965	... 298	14.3	11.5

The number of deaths was 28 more than in the previous year, giving an adjusted death rate of 14.3 per thousand of population, as against 12.3 last year. The rate for England and Wales was 11.5, being 0.2 lower than in 1964.

There were no maternal deaths. The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales in 1965 was 0.25 per 1,000 total live and still births.

TABLE 4.

Infant Death Rate

Year	Number of Infant Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 live births:	
		Whitehaven	England & Wales
1961	... 14	26	21
1962	... 15	25	22
1963	... 5	10	21
1964	... 11	20	20
1965	... 8	16	19

In 1965, the number of infant deaths was 8, a decrease of 3 compared with last year. The infant mortality rate was 16 per 1,000 live births as against 19 for England and Wales.

Six, or 73%, of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period, that is within the first month of life. The neo-natal mortality rate was 11.7 per 1,000 total live births, which was 2.7 less than the rate for 1964. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 13.0 per 1,000 live births, an improvement of 0.8 over last year.

The perinatal mortality rate of 22.99 was 13.81 less than that of 1964, while the rate for England and Wales of 26.9 fell by 1.3.

Out of a total of 8 infant deaths for the Borough, congenital malformations accounted for 4, and prematurity for 2.

TABLE 5.

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age

Cause of Death	Age in Weeks				Age in Months				Totals
	0—	1—	2—	3—	1—	3—	6—	9—	
Prematurity	2	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital malformations	2	—	1	—	—	4
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	1	—	1
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	—	1
				Under 1 month	Over 1 month				
Total deaths	6	...	...	2	...	8

Cancer Mortality

There were 56 deaths from cancer, the primary sites of the disease being shown in Table 6, while in Table 7 are given death rates for the Borough and England and Wales.

TABLE 6.
Deaths from Cancer

Location of Disease	Male	Female	Total
Stomach	7	8	15
Colon and Rectum	4	6	10
Lung and Bronchus	10	2	12
Breast	—	4	4
Uterus	—	2	2
Prostate	1	—	1
Other sites	7	5	12
	29	27	56

There was an increase of 3 deaths from cancer over the figure for the previous year. Lung cancer showed an increase of 2, both being in the male group.

The mortality rate of 2.05 per 1,000 of population, was 0.13 higher than the 1964 figure, while the rate for England and Wales of 2.23 rose by 0.02.

TABLE 7.
Cancer Death Rates

Year	Number of Deaths	Annual Death Rate per 1,000 of population :	
		Whitehaven	England & Wales
1961	46	1.69	2.16
1962	38	1.38	2.18
1963	48	1.74	2.18
1964	53	1.92	2.21
1965	56	2.05	2.23

TABLE 8.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1965
Registrar-General's Classification

				Males	Females
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	1	—	
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	7	8	
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus			10	2	
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	—	4	
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	—	2	
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms			12	11	
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	2	3	
Diabetes	...	...	1	4	
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	17	34	
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	33	22	
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	3	1	
Other Heart Disease	...	...	9	10	
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	7	9	
Influenza	...	...	2	1	
Pneumonia	...	...	7	6	
Bronchitis	...	...	7	4	
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	2	1	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	—	2	
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	1	1	
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	2	—	
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	1	—	
Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	3	
Other defined and Ill-defined Diseases	...	...	16	17	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	1	2	
All Other Accidents	...	...	5	3	
Suicide	...	...	—	1	
Total (all causes)				147	151
				298	

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Staff

There were no changes in staff during the year.

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Use is made of the bacteriological facilities at Whitehaven Hospital under the direction of Dr. R. Dallachy, and of the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Cumberland Infirmary directed by Dr. D. G. Davies. Analytical services are provided by Messrs. Ruddock and Sherratt, Public Analysts, Warrington.

(c) Local Health Authority Services

Medical services provided under Part III of the National Health Service Act are the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council. Information about the provision of Home Nursing, Home Helps, Immunisation and other services is available at the office of the Area Medical Officer, Area Health Office, Flatt Walks, Whitehaven.

Type of Clinic	Flatt Walks	Mirehouse	Woodhouse
School Clinic	Wed. 10-11 a.m.		
Child Welfare	Tue. 2-4 p.m.	Mon. 2-4 p.m.	Wed. 2-4 p.m.
Ante-Natal	Fri. 2-4 p.m.	Wed. 2-4 p.m.	Mon. 2-4 p.m.
Dental	Daily 9-30 a.m.		

Attendance at the consultant and other special clinics at Flatt Walks is by appointment only. Sessions are held as follows: paediatric, ophthalmic, ear, nose and throat, orthopaedic, child guidance, speech therapy, hearing assessment and training, and chiropody.

The Training Centre, Flatt Walks, has 65 places for sub-normal children.

(d) Hospital Services

The West Cumberland Hospital, as the district general hospital, provides a full range of specialist services and an emergency service at all times.

Whitehaven Hospital undertakes geriatric accommodation, and it is expected that it will become a geriatric day hospital in the near future.

(e) National Assistance Acts

No enforcement action was taken during the year to secure proper care and attention for the elderly and chronic sick.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

A report by the Chief Public Health Inspector on the work of the year has been submitted and will be found at the end of this report.

SECTION D.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Notifications, other than those of tuberculosis, are shown in Table 9.

TABLE 9.
Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases

Disease				No. of cases Notified	Died
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	18	—
Measles	...	...	...	758	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	5	—
Puerperal Pyrexia		...	...	4	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	6	—
Para-typhoid	...	...	...	2	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	—

The paratyphoid cases occurred in two women who were notified from the West Cumberland Hospital, being admitted there from the same address in the Cockermouth Rural District. This was associated with an outbreak of this disease in the Blackpool area whence a number of cases returned to Cumberland. The outbreak was, however, brought under control with little further spread. Such events serve as a salutary reminder of the ever-present risk of typhoid and paratyphoid

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications in 1965 were received as follows:—

TABLE 10.
Tuberculosis Notifications

	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Total
Male	... 7	—	7
Female	... —	2	2
Total	... 7	2	9

The number of new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year rose by 3 over the 1964 figure — all within the male respiratory group.

The incidence rates for the disease are given in Table 11.

TABLE 11.
Tuberculosis Incidence
Notifications per 100,000 of the Population

Year	Respiratory :		Non-Respiratory :	
	Whitehaven	England & Wales	Whitehaven	England & Wales
1958	65	59	4	8
1959	60	57	—	7
1960	72	47	4	6
1961	48	45	15	6
1962	69	39	7	6
1963	29	36	4	6
1964	15	47	7	6
1965	26	42	7	6

Mass X-ray Statistics

Table 12 portrays the picture of the work achieved by the Mass-X-ray Unit. As from January, 1965, this Unit has been based at the West Cumberland Hospital, and is open for five days in each week to cater for general practitioners' referrals, as well as the general public—all of whom may attend at the stated times or without a prior appointment.

As will be seen from Table 12, of 3,886 persons X-rayed during the year, eight new active cases of tuberculosis were discovered.

TABLE 12.
Mass X-ray Statistics

Year	Number X-rayed	New active cases discovered by X-ray	Notifications during year
1953	3,352	13	44
1954	3,396	10	28
1955	3,961	18	37
1956	3,974	10	41
1957	2,900	2	28
1958	1,500	1	17
1959	2,785	3	16
1960	2,743	2	19
1961	2,517	4	13
1962	4,042	6	19
1963	1,972	—	8
1964	465	—	4
1965	3,886	8	7
Total	40,806	88	304

B.C.G. Vaccination

Table 13 shows the situation in relation to B.C.G. vaccination in Whitehaven.

TABLE 13.
B.C.G. Vaccination

Year	No. of children eligible for test	No. and % age of parents consenting	Number tested	No. and % age Mantoux positive	No. given B.C.G.
1956 ...	434	324 (75%)	315	149 (47%)	160
1957 ...	446	332 (75%)	325	111 (34%)	212
1958 ...	547	409 (75%)	382	129 (34%)	251
1959 ...	433	307 (71%)	296	88 (30%)	208
1960 ...	549	446 (81%)	428	91 (21%)	315
1961 ...	609	467 (77%)	437	89 (20%)	326
1962 ...	558	438 (79%)	414	69 (17%)	294
1963 ...	567	447 (79%)	389	51 (13%)	300
1964 ...	1132	858 (76%)	722	83 (11%)	568
1965 ...	602	488 (81%)	450	89 (20%)	292

The readiness of parents to consent to the Mantoux test for their children, in the prescribed age group, to discover whether or not they have been exposed to infection from tuberculosis, is shown by the rate of 81% in Table 13. This figure must, however, be further improved.

The percentage of children found who had evidence of some contact with and immunity to the infection (that is the Mantoux positive group), rose again in 1965 to 20%, after showing a steady decline over the previous three years. This underlines the importance of parents consenting to the protection of their children by B.C.G. immunisation when the test shows a Mantoux negative result.

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
53, Duke Street,
Whitehaven

To the Medical Officer of Health,
WHITEHAVEN.

Sir,

I wish to submit my fifteenth Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1965.

The year's work has been one of routine with a decline in the slum clearance field due to the ten year programme, mentioned in the 1955 report, coming to an end. With the exception of a number of very small Clearance Areas in the Hensingham district, the abolition of slum dwellings as presently defined has been achieved although numerous 'sub-standard' dwellings still exist. Some of these will be improved, others will be swept away in re-development schemes and some will obviously fall into the unfit category; the housing problem therefore will always be with us but on a reduced scale.

Grant aided improvement works continued to be carried out but the interest shown by owners has once again been disappointing.

Food premises were found to be generally satisfactory and the standard of hygiene was maintained. No complete survey was made during the year owing to the demands on time from other subjects. The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act has brought a large number of premises within the scope of our work and it will not be possible to make a complete survey of these for two or three years. A fair number were however inspected by the end of the year. Total meat inspection was carried out during the year, and water, milk and ice cream were sampled. There is nothing spectacular to report on these subjects which are dealt with more fully in the following pages.

SECTION A.

HOUSING

NEW BUILDINGS: Seventy-four dwellinghouses were completed by the Corporation during the year and 157 were under construction by 31st December, 1965.

Eighty-four houses were completed by private builders and 50 were under construction by 31st December, 1965.

DISPLACEMENTS: Forty-one families were removed from unfit dwellinghouses and rehoused by the Corporation.

PROCEDURE: Ten dwellings were closed following individual action under Housing Act, 1957. (16); seventeen were closed in Confirmed Clearance Areas. Ten were closed under Unfitness Orders (Town and Country Planning Act) and four were closed by informal procedure.

Six small Clearance Areas in the Hensingham Area were inspected and submitted for treatment under Housing Act, 1957.

REPAIRS: The amount of time devoted to house repairs has been diminishing as old houses were cleared and this is reflected in the following table.

DEMOLITION: Considerable practical difficulties are experienced in having properties demolished and many old closed dwellinghouses have to stand for a considerable time after vacation. This is due to the use of Closing Orders in terrace type dwellings and the interlocking of fit and unfit houses. Clearance Areas give much less trouble and most such areas have been demolished. Only the acquisition and demolition by the Corporation of certain areas for re-development can solve the problem of these dilapidated structures and this policy is being pursued.

IMPROVEMENTS: The improvement of substandard dwellings by the grant aided provision of the five standard amenities or by more ambitious schemes under Discretionary Grants has again been disappointing. Publicity, letters to owners and verbal advice have failed to arouse owners to any sense of urgency and the number of applications remains pathetic. Existing legislation on this subject is so complicated that it is difficult to carry through to a conclusion and I am still of the opinion that any house lacking the five amenities should be regarded as unfit. A change in the wording of Section 4 of

the Housing Act would doubtless alter the situation in a very short time.

Thirty applications were received and nineteen houses were improved during the year.

RE-DEVELOPMENT: The cleared areas of George Street and Strand Street saw further progress in the re-development of the sites by flat building and road improvements.

OVERCROWDING: While a number of houses are still occupied by more than one family (due to sons or daughters marrying) there is no statutory overcrowding.

RENT ACT, 1957: No action was necessary under this Act during the year.

CARAVANS: The Corporation's Site at Woodhouse continues to be run down during the year and only eight vans were on this site on 31st December. Action was taken during the year to clear the Moresby Road land of itinerants. The land has been fenced by the owners and is now cleared of rubbish and filth left by these people.

PUBLIC HOUSES: No complete survey of public houses has been made since 1955 when there were 78 licensed houses in the Borough, many of which were highly unsatisfactory from a hygiene standard. Since that time 19 public houses have been improved, 2 rebuilt, 2 new houses constructed and 24 have ceased to exist.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963: This new legislation which was long overdue, deals with the safety, health and welfare of employed persons. By the end of the year 266 premises had been registered although numerous persons had still neglected to register their premises. One hundred and five visits were made during the year to shops and offices. The main defects or omissions were lack of indicating thermometers, abstracts of the Act, washing and sanitary facilities and lighting.

Few cases of overcrowding were noted. No fatal or serious accidents were reported during the year. The attention paid to food premises in the past has greatly assisted the inspections of such places as both the Offices and Shops Act and the Food Hygiene Regulations have many common factors.

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	52
Atmospheric Pollution		...	...	...	...	40
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	27
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	122
Drainage works	...	...	...	...	...	48
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	23
Drains inspected	...	...	...	...	...	98
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	...	17
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	82
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	13
Food shops	...	...	...	...	...	293
Food preparers	...	...	...	...	...	71
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	338
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	4
Infectious Disease Inquiries	...	...	...	...	...	36
Infectious Disease Fumigations		...	...	...	...	—
Interviews with owners/occupiers		...	...	...	...	397
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	32
Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	...	12
Market Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	111
Milk shops and dairies		...	...	...	...	28
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act		...	...	...	...	160
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	—
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	8
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	180
Rag Flock Act	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rent Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	2
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	37
Repairs revisits	...	...	...	...	...	103
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	116
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	747
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	13
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	9
Vessels in Harbour	...	...	...	...	...	59
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	24
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	320
Total						3,634

REPAIRS

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	8
Chimney stack/flues repaired		...	...	...	...	5
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	23
Drains repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	23
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	17
Eavesgutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	27
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	20
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	28
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
Gullies repaired/renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	17
Houses fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rain water pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	...	19
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	27
W.C. pans fixed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Wall and ceiling plaster renewed		...	...	...	...	24
Windows repaired/renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Total						326

SECTION B.

FOOD

- I. Food premises in the district numbered 208.
- IIa. Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act.

Ice cream (sale and storage)	...	72
Potted, pickled, preserved food	...	16
Fried fish shops	...	9
- IIb. Dairies and Milk Supply.

The milk supplied for consumption in the district is all designated, being Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised. No ungraded milk is sold and there is a strong case for the pasteurisation of all Tuberculin Tested milk, some of which is still sold untreated.

Licences are issued by the County Council to persons distributing milk in the district but sampling and supervision is carried out by this department. At the end of the year there were seventeen persons distributing milk.

Difficulty is now experienced in identifying persons selling milk within the district owing to the neglect of such persons to register with the local authority. This requirement is overlooked since the alterations in licensing arrangements were introduced. Businesses change hands and vendors appear from other districts without registration; doubtless the

possession of a licence is deemed to be the only requirement necessary.

Sampling carried out during the year gave the following results:—

T.T. (untreated)	5	Satisfactory
Pasteurised	8	Satisfactory

OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD SURRENDERED

Tinned Meats	...	...	...	...	1,913 lbs.
Tinned Fruits	...	...	...	...	1,666 „
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	997 „
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	113 „
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	206 „
Tinned Soups	...	...	...	...	196 „
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	14 „
Cereals	...	...	...	...	258 „
Cheese	...	...	...	...	190 „
Cordials	...	...	...	...	2 pts.
Chocolate	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Custards	...	...	...	...	3 „
Fats	...	...	...	...	28 „
Flour	...	...	...	...	15 „
Preserves	...	...	...	...	83 „
Treacles	...	...	...	...	12 „
Sugar	...	...	...	...	8 „
Pickles	...	...	...	...	4 „
Sauces	...	...	...	...	4 „
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	45 pts.
Total					5,920 lbs. 47 pts.

III. Food shops, stores and premises handling food were inspected during the year. No change can be reported in this field, standards were maintained and no prosecutions were found to be necessary. Generally, a better standard exists in large premises and multiple shops due to better supervision of staff, but in all cases occupiers were found to be co-operative.

IV. Education Activity.

No organised scheme or course of lectures was undertaken. It is my opinion that direct contact with food handlers on their premises is the better method of instruction and every opportunity is taken to instruct persons while actually employed.

V. Disposal of Condemned Foodstuffs.

Miscellaneous articles of food, surrendered as unfit for human consumption, are destroyed by deep burying on the

Overend refuse tip. Meat and meat products from the slaughterhouses are collected several times weekly by an approved agent and removed to another district for industrial processing.

VI. No large stocks of food were examined during the year.

VII. Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

All ice cream sold within the district is with one exception, manufactured elsewhere and arrives in a pre-packed state. The greater proportion is made by two important large firms, being delivered to shops in first class condition and thence stored in conservators until the sale is made. One person manufactures ice cream for consumption on and off the premises and numerous travelling vans sell ice cream of well known brands. The standards in the trade are high and no action against vendors was necessary.

Samples taken during the year gave satisfactory results.

VIII. Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960

A large number of visits were paid to food premises during the year during routine visits, for the purpose of food inspection and condemnations and under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. The standard of hygiene has not fallen since the complete survey of last year and the work of previous years has had good effect. Refinements in practices can still be made but the general advance is gratifying. No prosecutions were necessary as occupiers are very co-operative. Minor infringements of the Regulations were usually the result of thoughtlessness and were corrected informally where found.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

The two slaughterhouses continued in full use during the year. The Hensingham slaughterhouse, together with the Butcher's business, was transferred to a new occupier and the previous high standards have been maintained. The Pottery Road premises, owned and operated by the North West Wholesale Meat Company, handled a large kill and most of the meat is consumed in other districts.

One inspector was occupied full time on meat inspection. All animals slaughtered were inspected and the carcasses marked before leaving the building, a charge being levied for this service. Slaughtering takes place on seven days of the week necessitating continuous attention and it is felt that the practice of Sunday slaughtering is neither desirable nor necessary.

The general standards were maintained and the healthy condition of animals showed a substantial improvement from that which prevailed a few years ago.

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected and condemned:—

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows		Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	4,704	1,932	192	33,074	6,108	—	
Number inspected	4,704	1,932	192	33,074	6,108	—	
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.							
Whole carcasses condemned	8	10	11	56	11	—	
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	927	—	1,373	56	—		
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	14.24	5.73	4.32	1.09	—		
Tuberculosis only.							
Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	2	—		
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.03	—	—	0.03	—		
Cysticercosis							
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	8	—	—	—	—	
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	8	—	—	—	—	
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Total Weight of Meat Condemned: 13 Tons, 17 cwt., 108 lbs.

WATER SUPPLY

The entire water supply for the district is under the control of the South Cumberland Water Board.

I. Water is gravity fed from Ennerdale Lake through the treatment house situated near the intake point and flows to the pumping station at Summergrove, from whence it is pumped to several reservoirs for distribution. All reservoirs are closed type save the one situated at Scragill, Whitehaven.

II. The water is treated at the treatment house for hardness rectification and chlorination dosage. Bacteriological examinations were taken at regular intervals and results are shown in the Appendix to this report. The water is upland surface water and is naturally soft.

III. There is no evidence of plumbo-solvency.

IV. The gathering grounds are free from contamination by house drainage or other undesirable matter, the few farms situated on the western side of the lake have suitable treatment works for drainage and a single hotel has a modern sewage disposal plant.

V. The number of dwellinghouses supplied with water was 8,000 and the population 27,290.

Sewerage: The district is fully sewered except for the village of Sandwith and the entire sewage is discharged untreated to the sea on an unattractive part of the coast which is heavily polluted and fortunately little frequented. No change has taken place in the system of sewage disposal since it was introduced.

SECTION C.

MISCELLANEOUS

I. Factories Act, 1937-59.

A table is appended showing factories in the district and inspections carried out.

II. Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

The two premises licensed for the manufacture of filling materials have now ceased to operate for this purpose.

III Pet Animals Act, 1951.

There were four premises registered for the sale of pets. The trade is principally in gold fish and cage birds. The premises were satisfactory and no infringements of conditions took place.

IV. Offensive trades.

Two premises are registered for offensive trades but only one carried on any business, that of rag and bone dealer. This business was conducted satisfactorily.

V. Rodent Control.

The number of cases of infested premises discovered both by inspection and on complaint varied little from previous years and no major infestation occurred. Most cases were confined to very small infestations in dwellinghouses or gardens. The sewers and the refuse tip are treated regularly and the rat population is small and controlled.

Treatment and advice is given free to householders while a nominal charge is made for attention to business premises. Many businesses are however, treated by a well-known firm dealing in disinfestation.

VI. Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution.

Little progress can be reported on this subject following the advances made in the last two years when improvements were achieved in the smoke emissions from certain factories, the local swimming baths and the shunting locomotives working in the dock area. The remaining problems in the industrial field are concerned with the emissions from steamers preparing for sea and the stack of one coal pit. Both of these pose special technical problems not easy of solution.

Domestic smoke still constitutes a problem and no serious reduction can be reported. A few all electrically heated flats have been built and a number of approved solid fuel burning appliances installed in new dwellings but these are but a small proportion of the total number involved throughout the district: dilution of domestic smoke has taken place by the erection of houses further away from the town centre, but until such times as smokeless fuels are cheaper and more easily obtained than raw bituminous coal, this pollution will continue. All new buildings should conform to smokeless zone requirements as a condition of planning; this would, at least, be a step in the right direction.

Atmospheric pollution from emissions other than smoke continues to occur from a large and expanding chemical industry situated on the weather side of the town. Close contact with the firm involved and with the Alkali Inspectorate was maintained to keep such emissions down wherever possible. New stack heights were agreed upon and expensive equipment installed to mitigate the problem.

VII. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

This service is undertaken by the Borough Surveyor's department. All refuse is disposed of by tipping into a large disused quarry on the outskirts of the district. The system of emptying the contents of galvanised dustbins into open skips and thence into cleansing vehicles has prevailed for a great number of years and was a constant reminder of the complete lack of progress in this aspect of environmental health practice. Irrespective of the type of vehicle and bin used the method had nothing to commend it. It is therefore gratifying to report that a start has now been made for the collection of refuse to be undertaken by the paper sack system and it is hoped that this will be extended to cover the entire district.

VIII. Disinfections and Verminous Premises.

Apart from seasonal trouble with housefly this problem is very much reduced doubtless due to a greater awareness of occupiers, to improved housing standards and to the use of modern insecticides. Only three cases of bed bug were discovered during the year; occasional treatment for ants and cockroaches was necessary.

IX. Public Swimming Baths.

The Public Baths owned and managed by the local authority continued to be well patronised during the year. Chlorinated water is drawn from the town mains and a continuous circulation is maintained through sand filters. The water is treated with a suitable chlorine dosage. Bacteriological sampling was carried out regularly and the water proved very satisfactory.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR A. BELDON
Chief Public Health Inspector

APPENDIX

WATER ANALYSIS

Date	Before or After Chlorination	Number of organisms per ml. on Nutrient Agar after 48 hours at 37°C.	After 3 days at 20/22°C.	Probable number of Coli form organisms per 100 mls.	Clostridium Welchii per 50 mls.	Remarks
1.2.65	After	6	18	—	—	Satisfactory
15.2.65	After	1	17	2	—	Supply should be kept under observation
22.3.65	After	1	0	0	0	Satisfactory
12.4.65	After	1	16	0	0	Satisfactory
17.5.65	After	5	48	0	0	Satisfactory
28.6.65	After	3	6	0	0	Satisfactory
26.7.65	After	5	35	2	2	Unsatisfactory
31.8.65	After	0	28	0	0	Satisfactory
28.9.65	After	3	2416	18 +	0	Unsatisfactory
25.10.65	After	Approx. 688	Approx. 605	0	0	Inadequate chlorination
22.11.65	After	3	11	0	0	Satisfactory
13.12.65	After	4	35	0	0	Satisfactory

SWIMMING BATHS WATER ANALYSIS

Date	Before or After Chlorination	Number of organisms per ml. on Nutrient Agar after 48 hours at 37° C.	After 3 days at 20/22° C.	Probable number of Coliform organisms per 100 mls.	Clostridium Welchii per 50 mls.	Remarks
1.2.65	After	3	2	0	0	Satisfactory
15.2.65	After	418	Approx. 700	0	0	Satisfactory
22.3.65	After	290	55	1	0	Satisfactory
12.4.65	After	Approx. 1,100	Approx. 1,500	0	0	Satisfactory
17.5.65	After	588	Uncountable	0	0	Satisfactory
28.6.65	After	71	550	0	0	Satisfactory
26.7.65	After	Approx. 789	Uncountable	2	0	Insufficient Chlorination
31.8.65	After	Uncountable	Approx. 2,848	0	0	Satisfactory
28.9.65	After	Uncountable	Uncountable	0	0	Satisfactory
25.10.65	After	0	Approx. 386	0	0	Satisfactory
22.11.65	After	0	2	1	1	Satisfactory

Public Analyst's Laboratory,
Flag Lane,
Warrington.
22nd December, 1965

To: A. A. Beldon, Esq.,
Chief Public Health Inspector,
Health Department,
53, Duke Street,
WHITEHAVEN.

REPORT upon the analysis of one sample of water, received
on 16th December, 1965.

Sample marked: Direct from Ennerdale Lake near Gauge
Hotel. Taken 13.12.65.

ANALYSIS

Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear and Colourless
Odour	...	...	...	...	nil
Reaction pH	...	...	...	...	6.3
					Parts per million
Total solids	...	...	...	...	30
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.0
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.04
Nitrogen as nitrites	...	...	...	...	nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	...	...	...	...	0.0
Chlorides, as Cl	...	...	...	...	15
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	...	...	...	...	0.25
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	9
Temporary hardness	...	...	...	...	8
Permanent hardness	...	...	...	...	1
Alkalinity	...	...	...	...	8
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	nil
Potassium, as K	...	...	...	...	0.3
Anionic synthetic detergents	...	...	...	...	—
Manganese, as Mn	...	...	...	...	—
Cyanides and thiocyanates	...	...	...	...	—
Poisonous metals	...	...	...	...	nil
Fluoride	...	...	...	...	0.2

Opinion : The water has typical characteristics from this
source: it is acid in character and has very low bi-
carbonate alkalinity. These features indicate a
corrosive potential for metals. Organically the
water is satisfactory.

for RUDDOCK & SHERRATT
J. Graham Sherratt.

**Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health
in respect of the Year 1965
for the
Borough of Whitehaven
in the
County of Cumberland**

**Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961**

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of Inspec- tions (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers Prose- cuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	52	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	89	79	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	11	11	—	—
Total	109	142	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	reme- died (3)	Number of cases in which Defects were found			Number of cases in which prose- cutions were in- stituted (6)
			referred to H.M. In- spectors (4)	by H.M. In- spectors (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out Work) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	5	—	—	—	—

PART VIII. OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	No. of out- Workers in August list required by Section (110(1) (c) (2)	Section 133		Section 134		
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prose- cutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosec- cution (7)
Wear (Making apparel, etc.)	2	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and wash- ing Household linen	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, Lace curtains and nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings	2	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plating	—	—	—	—	—	—
File Making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and Steel cables and chains	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel an- chors and grapnels	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	—	—	—	—	—	—

PART VIII. OF THE ACT
OUTWORK
(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	No. of out-Workers in August list required by Section (110(1) (c) (2)	Section 133		Section 134		
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecution (7)
Tents	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding etc., of buttons, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	—	—	—	—	—

GEORGE TODD & SON

PRINTERS

WHITEHAVEN